

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5, 8-11, 13, 16-19, 22-24, 26, and 29-48 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 16, 29, and 39 being the independent claims. Claims 6-7, 14-15, 20-21 and 27-28 were previously cancelled. Claims 12 and 25 are sought to be cancelled. Claims 1, 16, 29 and 39 are sought to be amended. No new claims are sought to be added.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 alleging that the claim is lacking a tangible result, useful result and practical utilities. Applicants respectfully traverse. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the element of storing topics on a computer readable storage medium. The storing of a topic provides a tangible results that has a multitude of useful and practical utility including, but not limited to improving Internet searches.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 11, 13, 16, 24, 26 and 49 have been rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,625,748 ("McDonough Patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,125,362 ("Elworthy Patent"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 12 and 25 include allowable subject matter. To expedite prosecution, independent claims 1 and 16 have been incorporated to include the allowable subject matter from claims 12 and 25. For at least this reason, claims 1 and 16 are patentable over the McDonough and Elworthy Patents. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Because each dependent claim incorporates all of the elements of the independent claim from which it depends, as well as additional features, the above arguments made with respect to the independent claims, apply *a fortiori* to the dependent claims. For at least this reason, the dependent claims are also patentable over the cited references and their combination. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 11, 13, 24 and 26 is respectfully requested.

Claim 49 has been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

Claims 2-5, 8-10, 17-19, and 22-23 have been rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the McDonough Patent and Elworthy Patent in further view of U.S. Patent Publication 2004/0024739 ("Copperman Application"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Each of these claims depend on amended independent claims 1 or 16, which include allowable subject matter as identified by the Examiner. Because each dependent

claim incorporates all of the elements of the independent claim from which it depends, as well as additional features, the above arguments made with respect to the independent claims, apply *a fortiori* to the dependent claims. For at least this reason, the dependent claims are also patentable over the cited references and their combination.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 2-5, 8-10, 17-19, and 22-23 is respectfully requested.

Claims 29-48 and 50 have been rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the McDonough Patent and Elworthy Patent in further view of U.S. Patent 5,987,460 ("Niwa Patent"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Each of claims 29-48 use topics that were generated by the method of amended claim 1, which include allowable subject matter as identified by the Examiner. Because each dependent claim incorporates all of the elements of the independent claim from which it depends, as well as additional features, the above arguments made with respect to the independent claims, apply *a fortiori* to the dependent claims. For at least this reason, the dependent claims are also patentable over the cited references and their combination. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 29-48 is respectfully requested.

Claim 50 has been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be

withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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